



# CITY OF LODI

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

## COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

TO: City Council

FROM: City Manager

MEETING DATE: June 20, 1990

AGENDA TITLE: Public Meeting to be Held at the Request of the California Department of Health Services, Office of Drinking Water, to Inform the Public of Dibromochloropropane (DBCP) Level in the City Water System

RECOMMENDED ACTION: This item requires no action. The purpose is for the Council to hear the concerns of Lodi's water customers with respect to the levels of DBCP in our water system.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: In April of this year, the City of Lodi received an amended water supply permit from the California Department of Health Services. This permit is attached as Exhibit A.

The amended permit allows the City of Lodi to use City wells which exceed the maximum contaminant level of 0.2 parts per billion (ppb) for DBCP during peak water demands. The use of these wells is subject to a number of conditions that are listed in the amended permit.

The first condition was that we notify our water customers that our water system may exceed the State standard of 0.2 ppb for DBCP. The City notified water customers by sending the first quarterly notice (Exhibit B) and by holding a press conference on May 23, 1990. Attached as Exhibit C is a recap of the 13 telephone calls we received, as of June 5, 1990, after the notice was mailed and the DBCP articles appeared in the newspaper. Exhibit D is a copy of the only formal letter received.

The purpose of this public meeting is to comply with Condition 3b of the amended permit which reads:

"The City shall hold a public meeting by July 15, 1990 to inform the public of the DBCP problem within the system and provide an opportunity for comment. This public meeting will be as provided for in Section 6061 of the Government Code."

Attached as Exhibit E is a description of Lodi's water system along with a history and testing procedures used for DBCP. Exhibit E shows estimated water rate increases that will be necessary to pay off the low-interest loan we will be obtaining from the State of California.

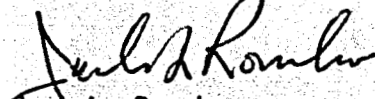
APPROVED:

*Thomas A. Peterson*  
THOMAS A. PETERSON, City Manager

FILE NO.

City Council  
DBCP  
June 20, 1990  
Page 2

Staff will make a short presentation of this material at the public meeting.

  
Jack L. Ronsko  
Public Works Director

JLR/mt

Attachments

cc: Water/Wastewater Superintendent  
California Department of Health Services, Dave Zuccaro  
California Department of Health Services, Bert Ellsworth

STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES  
OFFICE OF DRINKING WATER

PERMIT AMENDMENT

City of Lodi

San Joaquin County  
April 1990

Report Prepared By:

  
David Zuccaro, Sanitary Engineer

Report Approved By:

  
Albert L. Ellsworth, Chief Northern California

Region

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

31 EAST CHANNEL STREET, ROOM 270  
STOCKTON, CA 95202  
(209) 948-7697



April 20, 1990

Jack L. Ronsko  
Public Works Director  
221 West Pine Street  
Lodi, CA 95240

**PERMIT AMENDMENT**


The application from the city of Lodi (hereinafter city) for an amended water supply permit for System No. 39-004, dated March 12, 1990, has been considered by the State Department of Health Services. Enclosed is a copy of an Engineering Report, dated March 21, 1990, prepared by the office of Drinking Water regarding the application.

It is the finding of the State Department of Health Services that the water system will be unable to meet California Code of Regulations (CCR), Section 64444.5, Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCL's), Table 5(c) 1,2-Dibromo-3-chloropropane (DBCP), on a continuous basis. Peak demand periods will require the City to use wells that contain DBCP above its MCL. This finding is based on the enclosed report. The City is hereby granted an amended domestic water supply permit allowing the use of well sources which may exceed the HCL for DBCP, subject to the following conditions:

1. All water consumers being served by the City water system which exceeds the MCL for DBCP shall be notified of such fact in accordance with Section 64463, Chapter 15, Title 22, CCR.
2. The City shall use DBCP contaminated wells only to meet peak demand periods as defined by minimum water system pressure set points, starting with those wells which have the lowest concentration of DBCP. Wells with the highest concentration of DBCP shall be the first to be taken off-line as demand permits. In no case shall the City of Lodi return to service any well which has a DBCP concentration of greater than 2.0 ug/l as required under Section 64445.1 (b) 5, Chapter 15, Title 22, CCR.
3. The City shall meet the following DBCP abatement schedule:
  - a) By June 1, 1990, the City shall determine the average DBCP concentration in the parts of the distribution system that have the potential of receiving concentrations of DBCP above its MCL. This data shall be submitted to the Department by June 15, 1990.

- 4
- b) The City shall hold a public meeting by July 15, 1990 to inform the public of the DBCP problem within the system and provide an opportunity for comment. This public meeting will be as provided for in Section 6061 of the Government Code.
  - c) By April 1, 1991, the City shall have procured funds for the purpose of purchasing well-head activated carbon treatment units and/or abandoning/replacing wells which violate the MCL for DBCP.
  - d) By April 1, 1992, the City shall have installed well-head activated carbon treatment units at each well site which violates the MCL for DBCP.
4. After installation of each well-head activated carbon treatment unit, the City shall verify through laboratory results that the treatment provided at each well site is functioning as intended. Specifically, each treatment unit must reduce the DBCP concentration to a level not to exceed 0.2 ug/l.
5. The Department strongly recommends that the City further its water conservation efforts so as to minimize the run-time of those wells which exceed the MCL for DBCP and thus reduce the water consumers' exposure to DBCP.
6. The City shall not meet increased system water demands caused by the addition of new subdivisions (those not having an approved tentative map) to the system by increasing its use of DBCP contaminated sources. All new sources added to accommodate growth shall comply with all primary and secondary standards set forth in sections 64421 through 64445.2, inclusive, and sections 64471 through 64475, inclusive, of Chapter 15, Title 22, CCR. New industrial/commercial development that incorporates low water use may be allowed and will be considered on a case by case basis.

This permit adds to and amends the existing permit granted to the City of Lodi on October 29, 1985.

  
A. L. Ellsworth, P.E., Chief  
Northern California Region  
Office of Drinking Water

Enclosure

cc: San Joaquin Co. Health Dept.



**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

**WATER DIVISION**

(209)333-6740

May 21, 1990

**Exhibit B**

Dear Water Customer:

The City of Lodi is sending you this letter under the direction of the California Department of Health Services, Office of Drinking Water, to bring to your attention certain action being taken by the Department of Health Services with respect to drinking water standards.

The California Department of Health Services has adopted new drinking water limits for **Dibromochloropropane (DBCP)**. This organic **chemical** was once a popular pesticide used in and around Lodi by area farmers. In California, **DBCP** use was banned in **1977**. The Department **has** determined that **DBCP may be** a health concern at certain levels of exposure.

Chemicals **such** as DBCP that cause cancer in laboratory animals, such as rats and **mice** when exposed to very high doses over their lifetimes, may increase the risk of cancer to humans exposed to trace amounts over **long** periods of time. Although this possibility is debated by leading scientists, the Department of Health Services on July 28, 1989 set a new drinking water limit of 0.0002 parts per million (ppm) for DBCP.

To help you visualize the new limit, 0.0002 ppm is equal to 1 drop in approximately 66,000 **gallons** of water. If you drank 2 **quarts** of water a day, it would take more than **360** years to drink 66,000 gallons.

The theoretical cancer hazard of drinking 2 quarts per day of Lodi's water containing DBCP at its highest **possible level** is very **small** and is, in fact, 3 times less than the cancer hazard of eating a serving of peanut butter per day, 40 times **less** than the cancer hazard of eating 2 slices of bread per day and 280 times **less** than the cancer hazard of drinking 1 glass of wine per day! The cancer hazard of these common food items is **not** regulated by the Government.

Prior to July 28, 1989, all of Lodi's wells met the California Department of Health Services standard of 0.001 ppm. As a result of the State's new, more stringent **DBCP** standard, 12 of Lodi's 23 wells are now out of compliance. To satisfy Lodi's peak warm weather water demands, it will be necessary to use all of the existing wells before treatment facilities can be installed.

The City of Lodi is working toward a solution to this **dilemma**. To protect your health and continue to meet fire protection needs, the City of Lodi has obtained approval from the California Department of Health Services to use wells containing DBCP during peak water demands until they can be brought into compliance. A compliance plan which will include abandoning some wells, well site treatment facilities, and installation of new wells, has been sent to the State for approval.

The estimated initial construction cost to meet this new **DBCP** limit is between \$6,000,000 and \$7,000,000. Lodi is seeking a low-interest loan to help finance this construction; however, the ultimate full cost must be paid by you, the water customer in Lodi.

In the meantime, you may consider your water safe to drink. The City will keep you informed on a regular basis of progress made to resolve this issue.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, the water quality standards or our service, please contact the office of the Water/Wastewater Superintendent at 533-6740.

Jack L. Ronsko  
Public Works Director

MEMORANDUM, City of Lodi, Public Works Department

**Exhibit C**

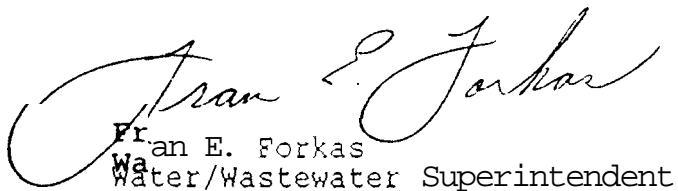
TO: Public Works Director  
FROM: Water/Wastewater Superintendent  
DATE: June 5, 1990  
SUBJECT: Comments from Lodi Citizens Regarding DBCP Public Notice of Wells Exceeding the **MCL**.

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The following 13 comments are from citizens of Lodi in response to the City's recently mailed public notice to our 23,500 customers regarding dibromochloropropane.

- o States New MCL
  1. Is "ridiculous".
  2. Lower limit is "asinine".
  3. "Ridiculous/unreasonably low level".
- o Senior Citizens
  1. Concerned about cost/fixed income. (Two calls regarding this concern.)
  2. Concerned about increase to elderly.
- o Health Effects
  1. Concerned about health.
- o Responsible Party
  1. Area farmers and chemical companies should pay/the State should pay,
  2. Area farmers using the chemical after the ban/no or little penalties.
  3. City should sue the chemical manufacturers.
- o Miscellaneous Comments
  1. Concern over getting quality into product (General Mills **SBG**).
  2. Offered to sell Lodi cleanup systems (35 gpm).
  3. Consideration of credit to future water bills because of home treatment system (cost \$4,000 to \$6,000).

If you have **any** questions or need more detail regarding these comments please contact me.

  
Fran E. Forkas  
Water/Wastewater Superintendent

FEF/ts

cc: Laboratory Services Supervisor

0690wr.02

*Robert O. Bader, D. C.*

PRACTICE OF CHIROPRACTIC

*Exhibit D*  
**RECEIVED**

JUN 6 1990



**CITY OF LODI**  
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Jack L Runsko -  
Public Works Director  
city Hall  
Lodi, California

31 May 90

Dear Mr. Runsko:

I have counted to ten but it didn't help, As the man said in the movie,  
I am mad as hell and I won't take it anymore.

I can see you are feeling the same. I admire the restraint you show in  
the letter you sent to the citizens, Your assessment of the situation is  
perfect. There isn't a rational person in this town who doesn't see the  
California Department of Health Services number as totally asinine.

It would seem there is more we, as a city, can do than simply roll over  
and play dead in deference to the whims of a couple of autocratic bureaucrats,  
Since 0.0002 ppm of anything in a water supply is totally insignificant  
and can be so proven using almost any authority, the least we can do is  
sue those people and change the number to one that is rational and  
meaningful, Where is it written in stone that the number has to be 0.002?

I won't get into other arguments here such as the number of deaths attributed  
to cigarettes and alcohol in comparison to water from ANY city water supply  
in the United States, but I would suppose the only water related deaths in  
the United States in any given time period would be related only to drowning.

A few years ago, the agency in question told the town of Livingston to  
dig new wells, etc. because of an arsenic finding. Since the wells had  
always had that (it was assumed) and since the town didn't have the money,  
the mayor, in his great wisdom, told the agency to take a flying leap  
and as far as I know, not much else came of it.

There are times when, in the words of a jurist of bygone times, the law is  
an ass. This is one of those times, but I feel we really aren't dealing  
with a law, we are dealing with a ruling or an opinion (whim) and that  
can be fought. I would rather have my share of the \$6-7,000,000 be  
used to fight them bums and win than to filter already pure water.

Thanks for the letter and thanks for your analogies. I am sure there  
are about 45,000 Lodians who feel as we do. We should fight this, it's  
nuts.

Sincerely,

*Bob*

Robert O. Bader, D.C.

*755 S. Fairmont, Suite C, Lodi, California 95240, Telephone (209) 369-2786*



LODI 'S WATER SYSTEM AND DIBROMOCHLOROPROPANE (DBCP)

The City of Lodi supplies drinking water to approximately 50,000 residences. The sole source of the drinking water in Lodi is groundwater supplied through 23 City wells which are all interconnected through 180 miles of water mains. The wells operate automatically on demand in a predetermined sequence as set by the well operators.

OBCP is a pesticide that was widely used on over 40 crops. In the Lodi area, DBCP was a popular and effective pesticide to control nematodes found in vineyards.

In the late 1970s, male workers at the DBCP production facilities in Lathrop, California, showed signs of sterility. An investigation showed that daily direct contact with high levels of DBCP (breathing, skin contact, and ingestion) caused temporary sterility in males. No adverse effects were found in female workers or either's offspring.

In 1977, California banned the use of DBCP and the United States Environmental Protection Agency followed suit in 1979.

DBCP was found to decompose very slowly in soil and it becomes mobile once in the groundwater.

In 1979, DBCP was first tested for and found in some of the Lodi City wells. DBCP levels in Lodi City wells have slowly declined since that time and are still generally declining.

In 1979, the State of California established an action level of 1.0 part per billion (ppb) for DBCP in drinking water. At that time, all active City wells met that standard.

Laboratory testing of DBCP was found to cause an increase in cancer in laboratory animals (rats and mice) when given very high doses over their lifetimes (equivalent to 53,000 to 280,000 times the DBCP level in Lodi's highest well). The No Observable Adverse Effect Level (NOAEL) in rodent studies was found to be equal to 17,500 ppb DBCP in drinking water.

Government theoretical cancer risk is based on the above laboratory animal data which is then adjusted to an average person's weight and assumes the person drinks 2 liters (about 1/2 gallon) of the water every day for 70 years. Additionally, these calculations included a 1,000-fold safety factor (which lowers a 200 ppb limit to a 0.2 ppb). No association between DBCP exposure and cancer has been documented in humans (even among the workers who had intimate contact with DBCP for years).

It is still being debated by leading scientists if these trace levels of chemicals will increase the incidence of cancer in humans. However, in July 1989, the California Department of Health Services, under a general mandate from the State Legislature, set a maximum contaminant level (MCL) for DBCP at 0.2 ppb (0.0002 parts per million).

The United States Environmental Protection Agency has yet to set any limit for DBCP in drinking water.

Since July 1989, approximately 12 of Lodi's 23 wells have been determined to be over the 0.2 ppb DBCP MCL.

A recently completed study by a consulting engineering firm shows that meeting the more stringent MCL will cost Lodi an estimated \$6,000,000 to \$7,000,000. This will include granular activated carbon (GAC) treatment units at some well sites, abandoning some wells, and installation of new wells.

To help you visualize the new limit, 0.2 parts per billion is 1 drop of DBCP in 66,000 gallons of water. If you drink 1/2 gallon of water per day, it would take 360 years to drink this 66,000 gallons. (In laboratory carcinogenicity testing, the rats and mice were each given more than this drop of DBCP every week.)

In perspective, drinking 1/2 gallon of water with Lodi's highest possible DBCP level has a theoretical cancer hazard that is:

- 3 times less than the peanut butter in 1 sandwich,
- 10 times less than 1 raw mushroom,
- 18 times less than a serving of fish cooked in a gas oven,
- 40 times less than 2 slices of bread,
- 280 times less than 1 12-ounce cola,
- 280 times less than 1 12-ounce beer,
- 480 times less than 1 glass of wine.

The above items are not regulated by the government to be excess cancer risks.

In April 1990, the California Department of Health Services granted Lodi an amended drinking water permit which outlines a time frame for procuring funds and installing treatment units. It also allows Lodi to use DBCP-containing wells at high demand periods until treatment facilities can be installed. Not using the DBCP-containing wells during high demand periods would cause health risks from low water pressures and leave Lodi lacking in adequate fire protection. The water customers must also be sent quarterly notification that DBCP-containing wells are being used. The first notice is being sent out today, May 23, 1990.

The City of Lodi has applied for a low-interest loan from the State of California. The California Department of Health Services has certified the project for the loan and now it is at the Department of Water Resources awaiting final approval. We are told final loan approval may take months and therefore we urge the California Department of Water Resources to act on our project as soon as possible.

The terms of the loan have not yet been determined. If the length of the loan is from 5 to 15 years, the monthly water bill increase could be from 68.6% to 39.1%. Therefore, on a 5-year loan, a monthly water bill for a 3-bedroom residence could increase from \$10.08 to \$17.00, or on a 15-year loan, from \$10.08 to \$14.02 per month.

**Summary of Estimated  
DBCP Remediation Water Rate Increases**

<b>Water Customer</b>	<b>Present Monthly Rate</b>	<b>New Monthly Rate</b>		
		<b>Term of Loan Repayment*</b>		
		<b>5 years</b>	<b>10 years</b>	<b>15 years</b>
<b>2 Bedroom Home:</b>	<b>\$ 8.40</b>	<b>\$ 14.16</b>	<b>\$ 12.30</b>	<b>\$ 11.69</b>
<b>3 Bedroom Home:</b>	<b>\$ 10.08</b>	<b>\$17.00</b>	<b>\$14.76</b>	<b>\$14.02</b>
<b>4 Bedroom Home:</b>	<b>\$12.10</b>	<b>\$20.40</b>	<b>\$17.72</b>	<b>\$ 16.83</b>
<b>1 Bedroom Apt.:</b>	<b>\$6.00</b>	<b>\$10.12</b>	<b>\$ 8.78</b>	<b>\$8.35</b>
<b>2 Bedroom Apt.:</b>	<b>\$ 7.20</b>	<b>\$12.14</b>	<b>\$ 10.54</b>	<b>\$ 10.02</b>
<b>Commercial, Industrial &amp; Others:</b>	<b>present rate plus:</b>	<b>68.6 %</b>	<b>46.4 %</b>	<b>39.1 %</b>

• Terms of State of California low interest loan and City of Lodi supplemental financing have not been determined.

PETITION

TO: CITY OF LODI COUNCILMEMBERS

RE: WATER SAFETY

WITHIN RECENT WEEKS, THE ATTENTION GRABBING NEWS STORY HAS BEEN THE COUNCIL'S DECISION TO BAN CIGARETTE SMOKING IN PUBLIC PLACES. WHILE THE EFFECTS OF SECOND HAND SMOKE ARE NOT TO BE DEBATED, THERE IS ANOTHER ISSUE THAT SHOULD BE DEEMED MORE URGENT AND HEALTH DAMAGING. THAT ISSUE IS THE SAFETY OF OUR WATER. RECENTLY A NOTIFICATION WAS SENT BY THE CITY TO HOMEOWNERS, WHICH DEFINED THE CURRENT HEALTH STANDARDS OF THE WATER IN 12 OF LODI'S WELLS. THE WATER IN THESE WELLS IS CONTAMINATED WITH DBCP, A KNOWN CARCINOGEN. THIS WATER IS CURRENTLY BEING SENT INTO THE HOMES OF LODI DURING PEAK HOURS. THESE PEAK HOURS ARE ALSO THE MOST LIKELY TIMES FOR A FAMILY TO BE PREPARING AND EATING A MEAL. THIS, UNLIKE SECOND HAND SMOKE WHICH TO A DEGREE, CAN BE AVOIDED, IS COMING DIRECTLY INTO THE HOME AND BEING USED FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION. THIS IS OUTRAGEOUS! EVEN GIVEN THE MINUTE PPM (PART PER MILLION) OF DBCP IN THESE WELLS, LODIANS SHOULD NOT HAVE TO FEAR THAT OUR WATER COULD POSSIBLY BE THE MOST HEALTH DAMAGING SUBSTANCE WITH WHICH WE COME INTO CONTACT.

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED, IN LIEU OF ATTENDING THE JUNE 20, 1990, SESSION ON THIS ISSUE ARE ASKING FOR A RAPID SOLUTION TO THIS LATEST HEALTH HAZARD WHICH WE ARE IN CONTACT WITH EVERYDAY, IN AND OUT OF OUR HOME. WE ARE ASKING THAT THE SAFETY OF LODI'S WATER NOT BE COMPROMISED IN ANYWAY, NOR FOR ANY POLITICAL, OR SELF-VALUING REASONS, BUT FOR THE HEALTH OF THE COMMUNITY AT LARGE. WE ARE ASKING THAT ALL OF LODI'S EXISTING WELLS BE BROUGHT INTO COMPLIANCE WITH THE CALIFORNIA STATE LAW WITHIN A TIMELY MANNER.

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>PHONE-NUMBER</u>
1.	Harley Cheryl Zimmerman	2442 Meadow Dr.	333-0184
2.	Edward Hays	2435 Meadow Dr.	333-7886
3.	Betty & Paul Rott	2429 Meadow Dr.	339-4023
4.	Mr. & Mrs. Robert Varga	2423 Meadow Dr.	334-3011
5.	Mr. & Mrs. Don Brenner	2405 Meadow Dr.	334-6745
6.	Mr. & Mrs. Diane Greengrass	302 Vineyard Dr.	369-5348
7.	Ernie and Rinda Doser	308 Vineyard	369-8643
8.	Joan L. Amrani (Daniel)	2414 Meadow Dr.	369-0286
9.	Margaret H. Harpeth	2422 MEADOW DR	
10.	Dan & Con. Greengrass	2436 Meadow Dr.	333-1068
11.	Robert & Phil Darrow	2419 Meadow Dr.	369-5551
12.	Bern W. Tilley	2516 Meadow Dr.	368-6589
13.	Kathleen Mallet	100 Mulberry Ln	334-1270
14.	Alto M. Anderson	2434 Meadow Dr.	368-0239
15.	Joseph L. Mansu	315 Air Fr.	



**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT  
WATER DIVISION**

(209)333-6740

May 21, 1990

**Dear Water Customer:**

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Jack L. Ronsko  
Public Works Director

PETITION

4

TO: CITY OF LODI COUNCILMEMBERS

RE: WATER SAFETY

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15.	Joseph L. Mamm	315 Air Fr.	

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING


June 20, 1990

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Wednesday, at the hour of 7:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, the City Council will conduct a public meeting to consider the following matter:

- a) At the request of the California Department of Health Services, Office of Drinking Water, the City shall hold a public meeting to inform the public of the Dibromochloropropane (DBCP) dilemma within the water system and provide an opportunity for additional comment. This public meeting will be as provided for in Section 6061 of the Government Code.


All interested persons are invited to present their views and comments on this matter. Written statements may be filed with City Clerk any time prior to the meeting scheduled herein, and oral statements may be made at said meeting.

By Order of the Lodi City Council:

  
Alice M. Reimche  
City Clerk

Dated: June 6, 1990

Approved as to form:

  
Bobby W. McNatt  
City Attorney

Note: Please make this our usual bordered add